

State Water Resources Control Board

GROUNDWATER QUALITY FUNDING SCOPING QUESTIONS: PROPOSITION 1 GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY

GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY SCOPING QUESTIONS

Proposition 1 GWS

1. What types of projects should be eligible or given higher priority?

What the law says: "...projects to prevent or clean up the contamination of groundwater that serves or has served as a source of drinking water...projects necessary to protect public health by preventing or reducing the contamination of groundwater that serves or has served as a major source of drinking water for a community."

2. Should some funds be used for loans? If so, how much?

What the law says: "...The sum of nine hundred million dollars (\$900,000,000) shall be available, upon appropriation by the Legislature from the fund, for expenditures on, and competitive grants, and loans for..."

3. How much funding should be set aside for technical assistance to disadvantaged communities? What kind of technical assistance is needed?

What the law says: "...Funding authorized by this chapter shall include funding for technical assistance to disadvantaged communities. The agency administering this funding shall operate a multidisciplinary technical assistance program for small and disadvantaged communities...."

4. What kind of limits should there be on grant funding amounts?

What the law says: ...There are no funding limits specified.

5. What factors should we consider in determining cost share? How should leveraging of private, federal, and local funds be considered in project s selection?

What the law says: "...added consideration for those projects that leverage private, federal, or local funding...."

"...a local cost share of not less than 50 percent of the total costs of the project shall be required..."

6. What kind of project benefits should we look for or focus on?

FELICIA MARCUS, CHAIR | THOMAS HOWARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

What the law says [paraphrased priorities]:

- ◆ *Threat posed by groundwater contamination to drinking water supply*
- ◆ *Potential for groundwater contamination to spread/impair*
- ◆ *Potential of project to enhance local water supply reliability*
- ◆ *Potential of project to recharge vulnerable, high-use basins*
- ◆ *Projects with no viable responsible party(ies) or responsible parties unwilling/unable to pay total cleanup cost*

Each state agency..shall be responsible for establishing metrics of success...

7. How should the timing of project completion and timeline for project benefits to be realized be considered in project selection?

What the law says:

- ◆ *Not explicitly discussed in Proposition 1...*

8. How should we assess a community's ability to pay for operations and maintenance of a facility funded by Proposition 1 funds?

What the law says: "An agency administering grants or loans for the purposes of this chapter shall assess the capacity of a community to pay for the operation and maintenance of the facility to be funded."

9. What would constitute a reasonable effort to identify responsible parties and recover costs by parties receiving funding?

What the law says: "Parties that receive funding for remediating groundwater storage aquifers shall exercise reasonable efforts to recover the costs of groundwater cleanup from the parties responsible for the contamination."

10. How should responsible parties' unwillingness or inability to pay for the total cost of cleanup be evaluated?

What the law says: "The project addresses contamination at a site ...where the identified responsible parties are unwilling or unable to pay for the total cost of cleanup..." [Note - this is a prioritization criteria]

11. When considering a potential project funded under this program should any of the contaminants listed in Proposition 1 or other contaminants not listed, be given higher priority?

What the law says: "The contaminants that may be addressed ...may include, but shall not be limited to, nitrates, perchlorate, MTBE (methyl tertiary butyl ether), arsenic, selenium, hexavalent chromium, mercury, PCE (perchloroethylene), TCE

(trichloroethylene), DCE (dichloroethene), DCA (dichloroethane), 1,2,3-TCP (trichloropropane), carbon tetrachloride, 1,4-dioxane, 1,4-dioxacyclohexane, nitrosodimethylamine, bromide, iron, manganese, and uranium.”

12. What areas of the Groundwater Sustainability section of Proposition should be further defined or clarified in the guidelines?

What the law says: “...each state agency that receives an appropriation ...shall develop and adopt project solicitation and evaluation guidelines. The guidelines shall include monitoring and reporting requirements and may include a limitation on the dollar amount of grants or loans to be awarded.”